IAS RELEASE 2.4
MINIMUM USER DESKTOP REQUIREMENTS

April 25, 2005
Revision 1.0

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USDA UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

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PURPOSE

This document describes personal computer (PC) technical requirements for accessing the Integrated Acquisition System (IAS) 2.4 application.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The Intended audience for this document is:

- USDA IT managers
- Agency Help Desk personnel
- Agency desktop configuration engineers
- IAS Help Desk
- OPPM/PSD PM

EXECUTED SUMMARY

In order to access the IAS 2.4 web-based application the following requirements must be met:

- Connectivity to the USDA Wide Area Network (WAN)
- A supported Microsoft operating system with appropriate access permissions
- A properly configured version of Microsoft Internet Explorer
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (for Core Apps and Prism reports view)
- JInitiator (for Core Apps access only)

OPERATING SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

IAS 2.4 has been validated on the following Microsoft operating systems:

- Windows 98SE
- Windows NT 4.0 workstation
- Windows 2000 workstation
- Windows XP Professional

Note: IAS 2.4 has been certified for use with Service Pack 2 for Windows XP Pro.

INTERNET BROWSER REQUIREMENTS

IAS 2.4 has been validated on the following Microsoft web browsers:

- Internet Explorer 5.5 SP2 (128 bit encryption)
- Internet Explorer 6.0

All Microsoft Critical Update patches were applied to Internet Explorer as of April 25th, 2005.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the software listed above, the following applications *may* need to be installed:
   • Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0.5 or higher (see note 1 below)
   • Oracle JInitiator 1.1.8.16 (see note 2 below)

Notes:
   1. Adobe Acrobat Reader is only required for users with a requirement to access IAS Compusearch Prism and users with a requirement to view the reports in IAS Core Apps.
   2. Oracle JInitiator is a web browser plug-in that is installed upon the initial login to the IAS Core Apps URL. Only users with a requirement to access IAS Core Apps will need this plug-in installed. The current version of JInitiator is 1.1.8.16.
   3. PCMS Web 4.2 uses Oracle JInitiator 1.3.1.17. This later version of JInitiator is not compatible with IAS 2.4. However, it is possible and acceptable for both versions to co-exist on the same PC. No special configuration is required.

CONFIGURING MICROSOFT INTERNET EXPLORER 6.0

Local workstation administrative rights may be required to configure Internet Explorer depending on how each agency has the browser configured.

IAS 2.4 will work in Internet Explorer as downloaded from the Microsoft web site with the default settings except if IAS Core Apps access is required. In which case the following settings will need to be changed in Internet Explorer:

   • Under the **Tools | Internet Options** select the **Security** tab.
   • Click on the **Local Intranet** icon to highlight it then click on the **Sites** button.
   • A **Local Intranet** dialogue box will appear.
   • Click on the **Advanced** button.
   • In the **Add this Web Site to the zone** field type **usda.gov**
   • Click **OK** twice. This will return you to the Local Intranet security box.
   • Click on the **Custom Level** box. This will bring up a **Security Settings** window.
   • Under the **Download unsigned ActiveX controls** select **Enable.** Note: This setting only needs to be enabled while Oracle JInitiator is downloaded and installed as described in the next section. For security purposes, it is highly recommended that this setting be set back to "Disable" once JInitiator is configured.
   • Click **OK** twice to close all windows. This will return you to the browser.

CONFIGURING ORACLE JINITIATOR

This procedure will need to be performed by an individual with power user or administrator rights on the workstation. Again, only users requiring access to IAS Core Apps need this plug-in.

Method 1:
- Log onto the workstation.
- Ensure that Internet Explorer has been configured as described above.
- Access the IAS Core Apps URL and login.
- Under the (e.g.) **USDA Interface Error Manager** responsibility click on the **Manage FFIS Error Documents** link. Note: If an Internet Explorer window appears stating, "**Your current security settings prohibit running ActiveX controls on this page…**" ensure you have the Internet Explorer security setting configured correctly.
- After a brief delay a command prompt will appear. This is the JInitiator install package extracting. Don't close this window until install is complete.
- Another window will appear in the foreground asking if you wish to install Oracle JInitiator.
- Click **Yes.**
- Allow the application to install.
- When the installation is complete click **OK.**

Method 2:
- Go to https://blue.usda.gov:8110/jinitiator/oajinit.exe
- The executable can be installed by clicking **Open** or saved for distribution by clicking **Save.**

IAS DESKTOP REQUIREMENT SUPPORT

While the configuration requirements for accessing IAS 2.4 are relatively minor, additional settings to the web browser and local machine security policy may be required depending on how the agency configures its PCs. For this reason, each agency is responsible for determining exactly what settings are required for IAS access.

Limited desktop configuration support can be obtained by contacting the IAS Help Desk at **www.iashelpdesk.com** or **1-866-IAS-8686**.